

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
375 Jackson Street, Suite 600
St. Paul, MN 55101-1854

*Helping People
Help the Land*

Phone: (651) 602-7900
FAX: (651) 602-7914

Transmitted via Email

February 2, 2006

MINNESOTA BULLETIN NO. 300-6-15

SUBJECT: LTP – EQIP CONTRACT COMPLETION INITIATIVE

Purpose. To announce the National Contract Completion Incentive for 2006 EQIP contracts.

Expiration Date. September 30, 2006.

National Bulletin 300-6-21 can be found at http://policy.nrcs.usda.gov/scripts/lpsiis.dll/NB/NB_300_6_21.htm which announces the Contract Completion Incentive for 2006 EQIP contracts ONLY. Offices should completely read the bulletin and its attachments. Offices should immediately implement this incentive by offering the incentive to every qualifying EQIP applicant.

To use this incentive, the new item Contract Completion Incentive (CCIA or CCIB) will need to be added to the EQIP plan. New items cannot be added into Protracts when the plan has already been uploaded into an application. Offices will therefore need to either a.) enter the practice in Toolkit prior to uploading; b.) delete existing plans from Protracts applications, enter the practice in the Toolkit plan and then reUpload; or c.) sign the EQIP contract and then modify the CCI item into the contract.

Although this is not a required practice, it is assumed that most applicants would want to accept the incentive. Therefore, DC's are authorized to automatically add this incentive to any application that meets the eligibility criteria and appears likely to be funded.

The funds for CCI come out of your regular allocation. Offices that do not have the CCI integrated into all their applications at time of application Approval will need to save back sufficient reserves to allow the CCI to be modified into their contracts.

Note that in Minnesota, Limited Resource Farmers will not be eligible for this incentive as they are receiving the maximum 90% cost-share.

Questions should be directed to your Assistant State Conservationist (FO) or through the Area to Tim Koehler, Assistant State Conservationist.

/s/

WILLIAM HUNT
State Conservationist

DIST: ASTC (FO)
DC
ARC
MN.EQIP